

DCINIC WL 99-15C



The DCI Strategic Warning Committee's
Watchlist



Also Watching:

- *Russia-Chechnya (page 11)*



FROM: National Intelligence Officer for Warning

Top Secret

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Also Watching

Russia-Chechnya

Hostilities between Russia and Chechnya may increase significantly in the coming weeks . . . Russian forces around Chechnya are being beefed up to respond to a perceived heightened threat from Muslim extremists operating out of Chechnya—and Prime Minister Stepashin may be tempted to resolve the Chechen crisis by force . . . The extremists have apparently coerced Chechen President Maskhadov's acquiescence for stepped-up attacks against Russian forces surrounding the breakaway republic . . . Extremists reportedly are planning to launch major attacks into Dagestan and Stavropol' soon . . . Extremists hope to drive the Russians out and establish an Islamic state across the North Caucasus . . . A successful high-profile extremist action will further undermine the legitimacy and credibility of the regime in Moscow.